

The Voice



A Newsletter for Yakima County School Retirees

November 2023

NOVEMBER'S MESSAGE

By Larry Scholl, Unit 34 President of the Month for November

A little bit about myself. I was born and grew up in Ellensburg on a farm adjoining my grandparent's farm. It was about 5 miles northeast of Ellensburg in the "Fairview" area. I was a typical farm boy, working on equipment and in the fields as soon as I was tall enough to be able to sit in the seat and steer a tractor. I couldn't reach the pedals but I could steer. At harvest time, being the only boy in the neighborhood, I was in high demand to help neighboring farmers. Wages were low then, a dollar an hour was top money. At about 12 years old, I started milking the neighbor's herd of about 12 or 13 cows. The neighbors were two old widow women and their very old bachelor brother. The pay was \$1 per day.



I suffered from motion sickness as a kid, so riding the school bus didn't work well for me. I rode a bicycle the 5 miles to and from school almost every day from 3rd grade to 10th grade. Most of the rural roads were still gravel then so the trip was rough and dirty. I also had to deal with the Ellensburg wind. I wore out several bicycles. By the 10th grade I had purchased and rebuilt a 1947 Cushman motor scooter. I rode that to school until a bought and rebuilt my first car (actually a 1941 Ford pickup) and drove that to school my senior year. The motor scooter sat unused in my father's barn for over 50 years. Several years ago I decided to restore it. It now looks like a new one.

Since my younger years, I have been interested in cars and motorcycles. I now regret ever selling any of them. But, when you are young and have no money, one had to sell the older vehicle to be able to afford the newer one. Much to my wife's dismay, we now own a "fleet" of motorcycles and cars. The motorcycles range from the 1947 Cushman to several in the 1970's. Not including our "modern iron" we have a 1910 EMF brass touring car, a 1957 Ford Fairlane 500 Skyliner retractable hardtop, and a 1970 Chev pickup. They are in excellent condition and we have been awarded numerous trophies for them at car shows. It is an enjoyable past time but it "eats" up time and money.

NOVEMBER'S SPEAKER

My name is Jeff Barton and I am currently the Liaison Specialist at Ft. Simcoe Job Corps. Job Corps is a nationwide federal program operated by the Department of Labor and the Forest Service. I started working at Ft. Simcoe in 2010 in the residential living department. In 2015, I was offered another position and moved to a different Job Corps center in Kentucky. The opportunity came up to return to the Northwest in 2020 and I jumped at it. After moving around, I learned I am truly a Washingtonian. Without a doubt, I have the best job in the world: I get to see students with no direction transform into someone who has a career in front of them and the next 30 – 40 years of their life mapped out.



Prior to Job Corps, I grew up mostly in the Seattle area. Went through the Bellevue school district then on to college at Central Washington University. Studies, and received a degree in Economics. Went to work in the financial sector and worked my way up the corporate ladder for the next 20 years. About 2006, felt a change in scenery was needed and I was offered a position as the maintenance manager for a vacation rental company in Breckenridge Colorado. I very much enjoyed the job, but shoveling snow 7 months out of the year was too much to handle. The opportunity came to move to Central Washington where I caught on here at Ft. Simcoe Job Corps. I really feel I'm right where I should be.



THE VOICE

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Mini-grants

Kathy Schultz
509 966 9341

GENERAL MEETING

When: Monday, November 6, 2023

Where: Englewood Christian Church, 512 N 44th Avenue

Fellowship: 12:30 pm

Treats provided

Program: 1:00 pm

Jeff Barton, Director of Fort Simcoe Job Corps

Join us for fun, food and fellowship as well as an interesting program.

The following people have signed up to bring

FOOD

Linda Sumner 509 248 1875
Carol Mills 509 307 2060
Rosie Churchley 509 965 2636
Lorry Evert 509 961 0125
Kathy Schultz 509 966 9341

DRAWING PRIZES

Linda Sumner 509 248 1875
Kathy Fletcher 509 424 3814
Jim Churchley 509 965 2636
Lorry Evert 509 961 0125
Nick Schultz 509 966 9341

FOOD FOR THOUGHT

**“School is a building that has four walls-with tomorrow inside”
~ Words of Wisdom**

**“You cannot do a kindness too soon, for you never know how soon it will
be too late.” ~ Ralph Waldo Emerson**

**Make sure we have
your proper email**

If you have changed your email address in the last year, please send me a corrected one. Thanks!
Sandy Gavin, sandyg1948@gmail.com

Opinions expressed in **The Voice** are those of the authors and do not necessarily represent the view of the YCSRA Board or the editors. Editorial contributions and articles as well as ideas for articles are welcome. The deadline is the 15th of each month. Send information to Kathy Schultz. Co-editors. Kathy Schultz • 509 966 9341 chevvhvn@charter.net Eric Patrick • 509 985 7768 ecpatrick@charter.net

WE SEND OUT WSSRA GREETINGS!

Let's support our members with get well wishes, condolences, thank yous, congratulations, thinking of you and more. Email or call me with names and I'll get the card(s) sent out for you. Email: cmstenehjem@msn.com or 509-966-3409. Leave a message if no one answers.

~ Millie Stenehjem



MINI-GRANT APPLICATION

As a member of **Yakima County School Retirees**, you are eligible to apply for a mini-grant to use with the children in your school. These grants are intended for special projects or classroom materials. **Grants up to \$500 are available.** It is a token of our appreciation for all that you do to help students achieve their potential. This year we have \$12,000 to award. So let us help you with that great idea for your class or school.

Grant applications must be postmarked by **Monday, November 13, 2023**. Applicants receiving grants will be notified by December 16, 2023. If you receive a mini-grant, we ask that you plan to share with us a written description along with pictures of how this mini-grant benefited your students. This will become part of a display at our May 2024 general meeting. *Please send it by April 15, 2024 to:*

Kathy Schultz, 4711 W Lincoln Ave., Yakima, WA 98908

Please complete the application below and attach to your typewritten sheet outlining program details. Make it brief and specific.

APPLICANT NAME _____

GRANT TITLE _____

AMOUNT REQUESTED _____ NUMBER OF STUDENTS SERVED _____

PROGRAM DESCRIPTION - Attach a separate typewritten sheet outlining program details.

APPLICANT HOME PHONE _____

APPLICANT (PERSONAL) EMAIL ADDRESS _____

SCHOOL NAME AND ADDRESS _____

SCHOOL PHONE _____

SUPERVISOR/PRINCIPAL (print name) _____

SUPERVISOR/PRINCIPAL SIGNATURE _____

YOUR SIGNATURE _____

Please return this completed application along with your typewritten grant description to:

**Kathy Schultz, YCSRA Mini-grants
4711 W. Lincoln Ave. Yakima, WA 98908**

This completed application must be postmarked by November 13, 2023.



QUESTION OF THE MONTH

What is something you really enjoy about living in the Yakima Valley? How long have you lived here?

The Sunshine and proximity to the Cascades. Lived here 74 years. ~ Patrick Walsh

There is such a huge amount and variety of activities in our valley. I have lived here 68 years. ~ Sandy Gavin

Yakima has a cornucopia of events and activities. I have loved participation. ~ Norma Haney

The dry heat and the dry cold. Lived here since 1985. ~ Rick Beck

I love the weather, the produce and the scenery. We've lived here 38 years. ~ Linda Beck

Lived her 44 years. I like the various fruits & veggies grown here and also we don't have as many natural disasters as other places. ~ Debbie Dougherty



Yakima Valley Community Band. Lived here 21 years. ~ Bob Ferguson

I love seeing new crops beginning to grow as the seasons change. ~ Jeannie Ferguson

I have lived here since 1957. I love the agriculture and the rivers. ~ Lori Schatz

At my age, I'm happy to be living anywhere! Born and raised in Walla Walla until Uncle Sam gave me an all expenses trip to Korea (Fortunately, a round trip). I have lived here since 1954. ~ George Picard

I enjoy the four distinct seasons of the year. I have lived in Yakima 55 years. ~ Larry Scholl

I am loving the cool, crisp nights and the clean, cool air. ~ Becky Scholl

The weather is perfect-just changeable enough. I moved here in 1968. ~ Millie Stenehjem

My husband Nick and I moved here in 2000 after retiring from teaching on the west side. I grew up here and my family lives here. Our daughter and her family are in Richland and our son is in Seattle. So we are in the middle. We enjoy spending time with family and volunteering in the community and at our church. ~ Kathy Schultz

All four seasons. Volunteering at the Ag Museum. Belonging to two car clubs. Glad to leave all that Seattle traffic behind. We've been here together 23 years. ~ Nick Schultz

I really like the climate of the Yakima Valley. I love the four seasons. I especially like the long gardening season. I have lived here 49 years. ~ Rosie Churchley

The weather and the closeness of the mountains. I have lived here around 60 years. ~ Jim Churchley

One of the best parts about living in the valley is the variety of fruits and vegetables available. I have always lived in the valley. ~ Linda Sumner

Our 4 seasons. I have lived here all my life except about 10 years in the 1970s. ~ Carol Mills

The blue sky and sunshine along with the memories of all the women I worked with. I have lived here 51 years. ~ Robert Swope

The weather, apples, working in the hops at a lab. ~ Net Palm

Lived here since 1961. Enjoy the seasons-they are all different and wonderful. ~ Lorry Evert Garvin

I enjoy the sense of community we have in the Yakima Valley. I have lived here 33 years. ~ John Osequeds

I was born and raised in Yakima so I have enjoyed all things Yakima all of my life. ~ Coreen Fortin

I love the weather, the valley beautifully carved with rivers, mountains, desert and dense forests of trees that touch the sky and when the sun rises and sets-a gift of colors to delight the eyes. ~ Willie Sgambelluri



PEBB OPEN ENROLLMENT UPDATE

The PEBB enrollment is November 1 through November 30. This is the time to make changes to your health plan coverage for 2024. Several PEBB medical plans will have significant monthly premium increases next year. It is recommended that you review your current health plan enrollment and the changes coming for 2024 to make sure your plans will continue to meet your health care needs and fit your budget.

You should receive the FOR YOUR BENEFIT newsletter soon. It will include plan premiums and other changes for 2024. You can also visit hca.wa.gov/pebb-oe. From this page you can find out what's changing, get plan premiums, view the in-person benefits fair schedule, visit the virtual benefits fair and more.

Who do I contact with questions?

Contact the Health Plans for questions about provider networks, benefits and costs. Plan contact information is on the HCA website at cha.wa.gov/employees-contact-plan (for employees) or hca.wa.gov/cobra-contact-plan (for PEBB Continuation Coverage.) For questions about open enrollment and how to make changes:

- Employees: Contact your payroll or benefits office.
- PEBB Continuation Coverage subscribers: Send a secure message through support.hca.wa.gov or call 1 800 200 1004 TRS:711



SLOW COOKER ROAST BEEF

Roast Beef is the ultimate comfort food, and this slow cooker Roast Beef Recipe turns this beloved dish into an easy weekday meal. Serve with mashed potatoes and a vegetable.

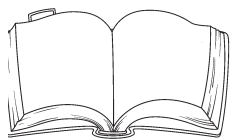
Ingredients:

- 3 lbs roast beef
- 1 envelope dry onion soup mix
- 1/2 cup water
- Pepper to taste
- 1 (10 1/2 ounce) can cream of mushroom soup

Directions

- Heat oil in a pan to brown the meat on all sides. Sprinkle pepper on top then place in the slow cooker.
- Add the dry onion soup mix on top then add the mushroom soup.
- Add water to the pan the meat was browned in. Use the whisk to get all the bits on the bottom to come up. Pour it into the slow cooker.
- Cook on low for 8-10 hours

Serve with a side of your choice!



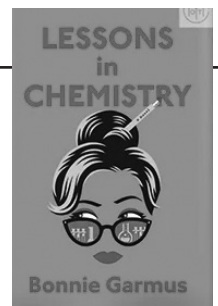
Book Corner

LESSONS IN CHEMISTRY by Bonnie Garmus

Chemist Elizabeth Zott is not your average woman. In fact, Elizabeth Zott would be the first to point out that there is no such thing as an average woman. But it's the early 1960s and her all-male team at Hastings Research Institute takes a very unscientific view of equality. Except for one: Calvin Evans; the lonely, brilliant, Nobel-prize nominated grudge-holder who falls in love with—of all things—her mind. True chemistry results. But like science, life is unpredictable. Which is why a few years later Elizabeth Zott finds herself not only a single mother, but the reluctant star of America's most beloved cooking show *Supper at Six*. Elizabeth's unusual approach to cooking ("combine one tablespoon acetic acid with a pinch of sodium chloride") proves revolutionary. But as her following grows, not everyone is happy. Because as it turns out, Elizabeth Zott isn't just teaching women to cook. She's daring them to change the status quo.

Laugh-out-loud funny, shrewdly observant, and studded with a dazzling cast of supporting characters 'Lessons in Chemistry' is as original and vibrant as its protagonist.

Review from Amazon Books



ESTATE PLANNING WEBINAR

On Thursday, November 9, from 9:00 to 10:00 am WSSRA, will present a member-only webinar on estate planning. Those nearing or just beginning retirement may have a financial plan in place, but many miss an equally important estate planning component. Estate planning most often comes into play late in retirement but is crucial to securing a solid financial future throughout the retirement years. Beau Ruff and Joel Ockey, from Cornerstone Wealth Strategies in Kennewick, will be the presenters.

Beau and Joel did a similar presentation at the WSSRA convention in Pasco that was highly reviewed. The presentation will be conducted in webinar format, meaning that Joel and Beau will be taking questions in the middle or toward the end of their presentation from the Q and A box. The webinar will be recorded and posted for those not able to attend live.

Please join us at the first of several member-only WSSRA-sponsored webinars that will be scheduled during the 2023-24 school year.

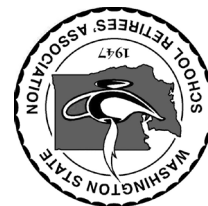


**THURSDAY
NOVEMBER 9
9:00am -
10:00am**

REGISTER HERE:

<https://form.jotform.com/232395437673162>

Yakima County
School Retirees' Association
3261 Lateral B
Wapato, WA 98951



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